XXXVIII.—*Additions to the Fauna of Ireland.* By WILLIAM THOMPSON, Esq., Pres. Nat. Hist. and Phil. Society of Belfast.

BIRDS*.

1. Kentish Plover, *Charadrius Cantianus*, Latham.

Three were killed in August last in Belfast bay. I subsequently learned from Robert J. Montgomery, Esq. that two were shot in Dublin bay in the autumn of 1846; one of which, procured by that gentleman, was kindly sent from Dublin for my inspection.

2. Temminck's Stint, *Tringa Temminckii*, Leisler.

A bird of this species, as I am informed by R. Chute, Esq., was shot near Tralee at the end of January 1848.

MOLLUSCA.

1. *Bullæa pruinosa*, Clark.

A dead specimen was obtained by George Barlee, Esq., by dredging on gravelly mud in Birterbuy bay in May 1848, at a depth of from twelve to fifteen fathoms.

2. "*Bulla*? *acuminata*, Brug. not Sow.," Philippi, Moll. Siciliæ, v. i. 122. t. 7. f. 18.

Procured with the last, and also at Arran off Galway bay, at a similar depth by Mr. Barlee. About the same time (May 1848) Mr. MacAndrew's dredge brought up a dead specimen between Penzance and the Old Head of Kinsale. He also took the species in sixty fathoms water on sandy mud, about fifteen miles off Mizzen Head (the nearest land), and in Bantry bay.

3. *Bulla mammillata*, Phil. Moll. Siciliæ, v. i. 122. t. 7. f. 20.

Procured on the coast of Galway in 1848 by Mr. Barlee.

4. *Orbis foliaceus*, Phil.

A specimen was brought up at the same time with the last off Mizzen Head.

5. *Stylifer Turtoni*, Brod.

Mr. Jeffreys informs me that his collection contains a specimen of this shell from Dublin bay.

6. *Rissoa abyssicola*, Forbes.

Procured at the same depth and on the same ground as *Bulla acuminata* off Mizzen Head.

7. *Rissoa fulgida*, Mont. (sp.).

Taken about the roots of sea-weed at low-water, Birterbuy bay, by Mr. Barlee.

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* *Correction.*—For *Porphyrio hyacinthinus*, noticed in the 'Annals,' vol. xviii. p. 311, read *Gallinula martinica*, Gmelin, of which species, Mr. R. Chute writes to me, he has now ascertained his specimen to be.

8. "*Eulima nitida* (*Melania*), Lam.," Phil. Moll. Siciliæ, vol. i. p. 157. t. 9. f. 17, and vol. ii. p. 134.

Obtained by Mr. Barlee on the coast of Galway in 1848; according to a communication received from Mr. Jeffreys.

9. *Fusus Sabini*, Gray. See Alder's Moll. Northumb. p. 64.

Mr. Jeffreys possesses this species from Dublin bay.

10. *Trichotropis borealis*, Brod. and Sow.

A specimen was found among a quantity of old and worn bivalve shells, dredged from twenty-five to thirty-five fathoms outside the entrance of Belfast bay in July 1848, and sent to me by Mr. Hyndman. Mr. Barlee obtained the species in the summer of this year on the coast of Galway.

11. *Natica sordida*, Lam.

From Dublin bay, in Mr. Jeffreys's cabinet. Dredged off Dingle bay and Baltimore harbour by Mr. MacAndrew.

12. *Chiton Hanleyi*, Bean; Thorpe, Marine Conch. p. 263. f. 57.

Dredged off Arran islands, co. Galway, by Mr. Barlee in 1848:—Mr. Jeffreys.

13. *Ervilia castanea*, Mont. (sp.), Forb. and Hanl. Brit. Moll. vol. i. p. 341. t. 31. f. 5, 6.

Procured with the valves united on the coast of Galway by Mr. Barlee in 1848. All previous specimens obtained on the British coast (off Cornwall and the Scilly islands) were but single valves, according to the work particularly referred to for this species.

14. *Nucula Polii*, Phil.

Mr. MacAndrew informs me that he dredged "some very young shells in May 1848 near the Nymph Bank at from fifty to sixty fathoms, and about as many miles from the Old Head of Kinsale on the course from the Land's End. In June, similar specimens were dredged from forty fathoms between Mizzen Head and Cape Clear, about twenty miles off the land."

15. *Galeomma Turtoni*, Sow.

An imperfect valve was dredged from the Nymph Bank by Mr. MacAndrew in 1848.

16. *Ascidia virginea*, Forb. and Hanl. Brit. Moll. vol. i. p. 33. pl. C. f. 2.

I have observed a few individuals of this species on the north-east coast. I doubt its identity with the *A. virginea*, Müll. Zool. Dan. vol. ii. p. 12. t. 49. f. 4, to which it is referred in the work quoted.

17. *Aplidium fallax*, Johnst. in Loud. Mag. Nat. Hist. vii. 15. f. 4.

Found by me on the north-east coast several years since.

18. *Botrylloides rubrum*, M.-Edw. Mem. Ascid. Comp. p. 88. pl. 6. f. 3; Forb. and Hanl. Brit. Moll. vol. i. p. 24.

From the middle of February last, and during spring, this handsome species was commonly thrown ashore at Cultra, Belfast bay, its bright colour often rendering it quite a conspicuous object among the ordinary rejectamenta of the waves. Its attachment to plants which grow within a few fathoms of depth denoted its being an inhabitant of comparatively shallow water. The largest mass which came under my notice (brought to me by Mr. Wm. Patterson) was 4¾ inches in length, 1½ inch in breadth, and ⅓ inch in thickness at the thickest portion; weight ¾ of an ounce. It was adherent to several of the narrow leaves of *Zostera marina*, which are about ⅛ of an inch in breadth, and to these only. The gelatinous mass was reddish brown; the systems of animals of a brilliant orange-red. It agreed in all respects with the description and figure of M.-Edwards. The variety in the ramification of the systems of animals through so large a mass was extremely beautiful, resembling an elegant pattern done in lace-work.

A plant of *Halidrys siliquosa* dredged from five fathoms in Belfast bay on the 3rd of April (kindly sent to me by Edmund Getty, Esq.) contained several masses of *Botrylloides*. They were all of a very pale grayish gelatinous colour; the systems of animals in some, more irregularly disposed than in *B. rotifera*, as figured by M.-Edwards, were whitish; others disposed like *B. rotifera* were buff; others again disposed precisely like *B. rubrum* were orange. Some tadpole-like larvæ as figured by M.-Edwards (pl. 4) were observed.

B. rubrum has hitherto been recorded as found on the coast of Normandy (M.-Edwards) and at Falmouth (Alder) only *.

I cannot leave the subject of Mollusca without acknowledging the great kindness and liberality of Mr. MacAndrew and Mr. Barlee, who have this year, as well as on former occasions, when dredging on the coast of Ireland, hastened to supply me with lists of the rare species obtained, together with other interesting matter on the subject. To Mr. Jeffreys also I am indebted for a list of the rare Irish species in his unrivalled collection of British Mollusca.

CRUSTACEA.

1. *Hippolyte pandaliformis*, Bell.

On examining two specimens of an *Hippolyte* some months since, which had been dredged in Belfast bay, I could not identify them with any described species. They were submitted to Professor Bell for the use of his work on the British Crustacea, and proved to be of a species that he considered new, and of which he had just drawn up a description under the name of *H. pandaliformis.* "This name" (he observed) "suggested itself from their leading to the typical Palæmons through *Pandalus*;" a peculiarity of structure which had also attracted my attention.

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* *Botrylloides albicans*, M.-Edw. Observ. Ascid. Compos. p. 88. t. 6. f. 2; Forb. and Hanl. Brit. Moll. vol. i. p. 24. t. A. f. 8.

As in the work last quoted this species is noticed as British only from my record of its being obtained on the coast of Down (on that of Normandy alone it had previously attracted attention), I may here state, that in the month of January last, I observed it on various species of *Fuci* on the shore of the island of Islay, Scotland. It was remarkably fine on the broad leaves of *Fucus serratus*, which there attain 4 inches in breadth. On these, this *Botrylloides* formed large masses 3½ inches in diameter, and was very beautiful, owing to the ramifications of the series of animals of a whitish hue, faintly tinged with pink, through the dull coloured gelatinous mass.

2. *Idotea acuminatum,* Leach?

Among Crustacea kindly sent from Dublin for my inspection by R. Ball, Esq. were two individuals of an *Idotea* 10 lines in length, very distinct in form from our three common species, the *I. pelagica*, *I. entomon* and *I. œstrum* of Leach. They were purchased of Mr. M'Calla, but on what part of the coast taken was not stated. I mark the species with doubt on account of Leach's only specimen in the British Museum, with which they were compared, being in a bad state of preservation. The *I. acuminatum* was first noticed in the British Museum catalogue of Crustacea, p. 95 (published in 1847), as among Dr. Leach's inedited species. He obtained it on the coast of Devon, and called it in his *MS.*, *Leptosoma lancifer.*

3. *Caligus Nordmanni,* Edw. Hist. Crust. vol. iii. p. 455; and Atlas, Cuv. Règ. Anim. pl. 77. f. 1.

I took several specimens of this fine *Caligus* alive on a sun-fish (*Orthagoriscus mola*) captured on the coast of Antrim in September 1848. They were all adherent externally to the skin of the fish on different parts of the body. When living they were marbled over with grayish lilac of dark and light shades. This species was erroneously included in a paper published in the 20th vol. of the 'Annals,' p. 248. The name *C. Mulleri* being substituted there for *C. Nordmanni* will make all correct. Two others noticed in the same page require the following correction, according to Dr. Baird, who then kindly assisted in determining them, but has since given the subject a more rigid examination.

Caligus vespa should be *Cal. Stromii*, a species since described by Dr. Baird in the Report of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club for 1847, p. 259*.

Caligus sturionis should be *Cal. rapax*, Edw. Hist. Crust. vol. iii. p. 453. pl. 38. f. 9.

ANNELIDA.

1. *Planaria flexilis,* Dalyell, Observ. on Planariæ, p. 5. f. 1, 2.

April 14, 1848. I found at Cultra, Belfast bay, two *Planariæ* of this species adherent to the under side of a stone between tide-marks, and brought them home in sea-water to be observed at leisure. When fully extended they are 6 lines long, and at the head 2½ broad, becoming thence gradually narrower. Eyes commencing at the distance of a line from the anterior extremity of the body; all extremely minute, but differing in size; disposed irregularly in a somewhat crescentic form on either side a transparent circle. The vessels along the centre of the body are prettily ramified like those of the genus *Glossiphonia*, as represented by Moquin-Tandon (Monog. Hirudinées, pl. 14, 2nd edit.). Outside this central distribution of vessels, the body to very near the margin is most minutely and beautifully ramified all over:—the whole worm presenting the appearance of a *Glossiphonia* "set"—in jewellers' language—in the centre of a *Planaria*, which broadly expands on every side. This appearance is literally "shadowed forth," in Sir J. Dalyell's figure 2. The colour of one of my specimens which lived in a phial of sea-water, changed about once in thirty-six hours, for twelve days, was during the time transparent, with the central Glossiphonia-like vessels whitish; the ramifications outside them reddish lilac.

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* [See also Annals, vol. i. Ser. 2. p. 396.]

The motion of these *Planariæ* is "very rapid, smooth, continuous and even," as Dr. Johnston describes that of the *Plan. subauriculata* to be (Loudon's Mag. Nat. Hist. ix. 16. f. 2), and with which species I cannot but consider the *P. flexilis* identical. The differences set forth in Dr. Johnston's diagnostic characters of the two, are, that the body of *P. flexilis* is "semicircular in front," that of the other "obtuse;" and, that the intervening space between the eyes is like the rest of the body in *P. flexilis*, but, that "a clear circular spot to each of the two clusters of eyes" exists in *P. subauriculata*. The individuals examined by me are occasionally obtuse, and occasionally semicircular in front, and present themselves exactly of the forms represented by both authors, as well as in innumerable other shapes. The position of the eyes is the same in both the supposed species; the "clear circular spot" to each cluster may either have escaped being recorded by Sir J. Dalyell, or possibly may not have existed in his specimens;—mine have both clusters of eyes within *one* transparent circle. On full consideration of the descriptions and figures of *P. flexilis*, Dalyell, and *P. subauriculata*, Johnston, I cannot—although it is opposing my ignorance to Dr. Johnston's knowledge of the subject—believe the species to be distinct. My specimens agree about equally well with both species*. Further, it may be remarked that my specimens have presented the form of *Polycelis pallidus*, Quatrefages (Ann. Sci. Nat. tome iv. pl. 3. f. 8—1845), to which they seem nearly allied: the eyes are just as represented in the highly magnified fig. 9 of that species. It was obtained by M. Quatrefages on many parts of the coast of Sicily. The *P. flexilis* was procured in the Firth of Forth, and *P. subauriculata* in Berwick bay.

2. *Euphrosina foliosa*, Aud. & Edw. Hist. Nat. du Littoral de la France (Annelides), p. 126. pl. 9. f. 1–4.

Aug. 26, 1844. A very handsome Aphrodite-looking species †, dredged today by Mr. Hyndman off Castle Chichester, Belfast bay, was brought to me. It was taken about a mile from the shore on shelly ground in from six to ten fathoms water. Being soon after capture sent to Dr. Johnston, it proved as new to him as to myself, and was left at Berwick for him to notice until lately, when in consequence of his having ceased to study the Annelides it was returned to me. Professor Allman then kindly undertook its examination and determined it to be this *Euphrosina*. The specimen is an inch in length; the size attributed to the species by M.-Edwards. Two others differing only in being smaller were last year purchased by Mr. R. Ball (of M'Calla), but it was not stated on what part of the coast they were procured. This is the first record of the genus *Euphrosina* inhabiting the British seas. M.-Edwards's specimens were taken on oyster-banks in the two neighbouring localities of St. Malo and between Granville and Chausey; in the latter locality, a league and a half from the shore, and at the depth of fifteen fathoms.

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* Having written my friend Dr. Johnston on this subject and requested his opinion, he replied:—"On a re-examination of the two *Planariæ* I find the distinction attempted to be made between them too fine and uncertain, so that I am forced to agree with you in the propriety of uniting them in one species."

† It is not however of the family *Aphrodisiens*, but of the *Amphinomiens*

" *Octobothrium* (?) *Merlangi*,
(*Octostoma Merlangi*, Kuhn.)," Nordmann, Mikrogr. Biet. p. 78. pl. 7.

Specimens of this parasite were found attached to the gills of whiting (*Gadus Merlangus*) in April; to those of the hake (*Gadus Merlucius*) in May; and to those of the pollack (*Gadus Pollachius*) in October 1837, by Dr. Bellingham of Dublin, in the market of which city the fish were purchased. The specimens are mostly about 4 lines in length. The genus has not before been noticed as found in the British seas.

ZOOPHYTES.

1. *Gorgonia verrucosa*, Linn., Johnst. Brit. Zooph.

The first *Gorgonia* of any species which I have seen from the coast of Ireland, was a portion of *G. verrucosa* sent to me in March last by Mr. R. Ball. The specimen was procured at the island of Lambay, off the Dublin coast, and taken to Mr. Warren by the man who found it on account of the size (18 inches from base to extremity of branches), he having never seen any so large before*.

of Aud. and Edw. Along with the *Euphrosina*, a singular new species, of which Dr. Johnston constituted the genus *Spinther* (*S. oniscoides*), was taken; it is included in the former family.

* This has been erroneously called *Gorgonia flabellum* in the published list of donations to the Dublin University Museum, Dec. 1848, p. 8. A specimen of *G. flabellum* with the root attached was brought up in a trawl-net from eight to ten fathoms depth off Bangor, Belfast bay, last summer, by Mr. Hyndman, who judiciously considered it a foreign specimen. That it had for some time been a denizen of our seas was however evident from the native productions which were attached, such as *Crisia eburnea*, *Cellularia ciliata*; *Grantia compressa* and *G. ciliata*; *Serpula triquetra*, with small portions of *Confervæ* and other native Algæ. This *Gorgonia* was 14 inches in height and the same in breadth.

2. *Alecto major,* Johnst. Brit. Zooph. p. 281, 2nd edit.

Adherent to old bivalve shells dredged outside the entrance of Belfast bay, from the depth of twenty-five to thirty-five fathoms, in July 1848, and sent to me by Mr. Hyndman.

3. *Alecto dilatans,* Johnst. Brit. Zooph. p. 281.

With last. I had previously noted this species or *form*—for I do not feel altogether satisfied respecting the specific distinctness of *A. major* and *A. dilatans*—as observed with other deep-water zoophytes on a stone dredged from forty fathoms off Whitehead, county of Antrim. Its three branches render this specimen more elegant than any of those figured by Johnston.

4. *Lepralia simplex,* Johnst. B. Z. p. 305.

I find this very fine and well-marked species on old bivalve shells, *Modiola vulgaris, Pecten opercularis,* &c., dredged on the same occasion as *Alecto major.*

5. *Lepralia Hyndmanni,* Johnst. ? B. Z. p. 306.

As last. Marked with doubt on account of the specimens being much worn.

6. *Lepralia annulata,* Fabr. (sp.), Johnst. B. Z. p. 313.

As last.

7. *Lepralia Peachii,* Johnst. B. Z. p. 315.

As last.

8. *Lepralia innominata,* var. ? Couch (description, *not* figure), Johnst. B. Z. p. 319.

As last.

9. *Lepralia Ballii,* Johnst. B. Z. p. 321.

As last. A very distinct species.

10. *Lepralia trispinosa,* Johnst. ?

As last. Agreeing with the description (Brit. Zooph. p. 324, 2nd edit.) better than with the figure, in the aperture being " small and circular," &c.

11. *Lepralia coccinea,* Abilgaard in Müll. Zool. Dan. vol. iv. p. 30. t. 146. f. 1, 2; Johnst. Brit. Zooph. p. 322. pl. 57. f. 2, 3, 2nd edit.

Adherent to a stone dredged from five fathoms at Donaghadee in Aug. 1848. This species is distinct from the *L. coccinea* of the 1st edit. British Zoophytes, and is called *L. unicornis* in the 2nd edit. I notice it here, as the variety β. only (*L. appensa*), is recognized as Irish in the last-named work.